GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:823
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2002
DEVELOPMENT OF INLAND WATERWAYS
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private sector has been asked to develop inland waterways in the country;

(b) whether the Government have earmarked Rs. 15 crore for dredging of NW 3 and West Coast Canal in Kerala;

(c) if so, whether it is a fact that in addition, works involving waterways from Kochi to Kottapuram, Allapuzha to Kayamkulam are also being offered to the private sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total inland waterways provided to the private sector; and

(e) the time by which the works on these projects are likely to be started?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b)&(c) A scheme for capital dredging including land acquisition for widening the narrow stretches of canal in Kochi- Kollam sector of National Waterway No. 3 has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 26.00 Crores and about 50% of dredging work has been completed. A scheme for capital dredging in Kochi- Kottapuram sector of NW-3 at a cost of Rs. 3.60 crores has been sanctioned recently.In respect of dredging between Alappuzha and Kayamkulam, the contract had to be rescinded and for taking up balance work at the risk and cost of the previous contractors, tenders have been called. The capital dredging works would continue during next year. These capital dredging works are awarded on an open tender basis.

(d) & (e) Subsequent to the approval of IWT Policy, an advertisement was issued in the news papers requesting foroffers from private sector for further development of infrastructure/operation of IWT vessels. Some firms have responded and discussions for further follow up action are underway.